

JAN 11 2006

PATENT

Serial No. 09/900,561

Amendment in Reply to Office Action of November 18, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a service to distribute electronic content to a plurality of addressees via a data network, the method comprising the acts of:

identifying respective edge servers in said network that are in close proximity with respective groups of addressees from among the plurality of addressees;

sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of the electronic content and said respective groups of addressees associated with the identified respective edge servers;

enabling the identified respective edge servers to add a local portion to the copy; and

enabling the identified respective edge servers to send

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individual copies of the electronic content including said local portion to individual ones of the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of addressees.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the enabling act further comprises the act of supplying a list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified respective edge server's respective group to the identified respective edge server.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic content comprises an e-mail.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~sending act further comprises sending a first portion of the electronic content to~~ said local portion includes local information associated with the respective identified edge servers.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of distributing electronic content via a data network to a plurality of addressees, the method

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comprising the acts of:

identifying respective edge servers that are in close proximity to respective groups of addressees among the plurality of addresses;

sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of the content and said respective groups of addressees associated with the identified respective edge servers;

enabling the identified respective edge servers to add a local portion to the copy; and

enabling the identified respective edge servers to send individual copies of the electronic content including said local portion to individual ones of the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of addressees.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the enabling act further comprises the act of supplying a list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified edge server's respective group to the identified respective edge server.

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7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the electronic content comprises an e-mail.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further ~~comprising sending a first portion of the electronic content to the identified respective edge servers; enabling the identified respective edge servers to add a second portion to the first portion; and enabling the identified respective edge servers to send the first and second portions to the individual addressees in wherein said local portion includes local information associated with the respective groups of addressees.~~

Claim 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a computer readable medium having instructions stored thereon for:

enabling identification of respective edge servers in a network that are in close proximity with respective groups of

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addressees from among a plurality of addressees;

sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of  
an electronic content and said respective groups of addressees  
associated with the identified respective edge servers;

enabling the identified respective edge servers to add a local  
portion to the copy; and

enabling the identified respective edge servers to send  
individual copies of the electronic content including said local  
portion to individual ones of the addressees in the identified edge  
server's respective group of addressees.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ computer program product of  
Claim 4, ~~wherein the enabling act further comprises the acts of:~~

~~enabling the identified edge server to add a second portion of  
the electronic content to the first portion of the electronic  
content; and~~

~~enabling the identified edge servers to send individual copies  
of the electronic content to individual ones of the addressees in  
the respective groups~~ Claim 10, wherein said local portion includes

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local information associated with the respective groups of  
addressees.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the supplied list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified respective edge server's respective group are addressable via the identified edge servers.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the supplied list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified respective edge server's respective group are addressable via the identified edge servers.

14. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein said local information include a local weather forecast associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

15. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein said local information include an address of a local or regional dealer

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associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

16.(New) The method of claim 4, wherein said local information include a regional price list associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

17.(New) The method of claim 8, wherein said local information include a local weather forecast associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

18.(New) The method of claim 8, wherein said local information include an address of a local or regional dealer associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

19.(New) The method of claim 8, wherein said local information include a regional price list associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

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20. (New) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said local information include at least one of a local weather forecast and address of a local or regional dealer associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.

21. (New) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said local information include a regional price list associated with a geographic location of the respective groups of addressees.